

Fox Television Stations Inc

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Vice President Corporate and Legal Affairs

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May 1, 1998

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Ms. Magalie Salas, Esq.
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

Re: MM Docket No. 87-268 - Progress Report

Dear Ms. Salas:

This progress report is filed on behalf of Fox Television Stations Inc. (FTS), pursuant to paragraph 76 of the Fifth Report and Order in the above-referenced docket, wherein the Commission directed licensees that committed to complete their DTV facilities by November 1, 1998 to file progress reports at six-month intervals, commencing November 1, 1997. On April 2, 1997, Mitchell Stern, President and Chief Operating Officer of FTS, confirmed FTS' commitment to install DTV antenna and transmitter facilities at KDFW, Dallas, Texas, WJBK, Detroit, Michigan and WTXF, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, within 18 months of adoption of a DTV Table of Allotments and service rules. This second progress report describes our progress to date.

KDFW, Dallas, Texas

A construction permit was granted on January 6, 1998. A building permit was obtained for necessary plant improvements. Tower modifications have been completed, including replacement of top guy wires. Other plant improvements, such as delivery of a new generator and pouring concrete pads to support beam supplies and heat exchangers, are completed. Installation of new fuel and return lines for the existing generator, along with monitoring points for the underground connections and fuel line are complete.

The new digital transmission line has been installed. Andrew performed the final checkout on the DTV antenna in late March. It is on site and due to be installed within a week. A Comark DTV transmitter has been ordered, and Comark has made one site visit to start planning for installation of the transmitter. Drawings have been exchanged with the general contractor in order to plan for electrical and plumbing connections for the transmitter. Delivery of the transmitter was pushed back from May to June 22, because of delays in fabrication of the control system and the RF filter required to comply with the more stringent FCC spectrum mask.

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ATSC encoder manufacturers and digital STL vendors have been consulted regarding other aspects of DTV plant buildout. This equipment will be ordered soon. If all proceeds as planned, the station will begin on-air tests in late summer.

WJBK, Detroit, Michigan

A construction permit application was filed on November 7, 1997, and subsequently amended on January 28, 1998, to modify the proposed antenna design.

We received a building permit to construct the equipment pad required for the DTV transmitter's beam transformers, heat exchangers and ice bridge on March 27, 1998. We are progressing with necessary electrical and tower upgrades to accommodate the antenna, transmitter and transmission line. However, we are unable to order frequency-specific RF components, i.e., antenna, transmitter and transmission line, until we receive a construction permit. It is our understanding that Canadian coordination is the reason for the delay. In order to meet our November 1, 1998 construction commitment, we will need to order the RF-related equipment no later than May 31, 1998.

We are making every effort to meet our construction deadline, notwithstanding the delay in receiving a construction permit. To keep the project on track, we have elected to schedule the tower upgrade in three phases. During phase one, currently underway, we are constructing the ice bridge necessary to mount the digital transmission line. Phase two will include all structural upgrades to the tower and seven guy line replacements. Phase three will comprise installation of the DTV transmission line and antenna. Phase one began after receipt of the building permit. Phase two is scheduled to commence on May 20 and is scheduled for completion in about a month. Phase three's timeline must float until a construction permit is received.

If we have not received a construction permit for WJBK-DT by May 31, 1998, we anticipate asking the Commission to consider allowing us to substitute KDVR, Denver, Colorado, as one of the three DTV operations that FTS has committed to complete by November 1, 1998. KDVR's DTV application, File No. BPCDT-980212KE, was accepted for filing on February 12, 1998, and barring delay of grant of a construction permit in connection with the Table Mountain Radio Receiving Zone in Boulder, Colorado, we anticipate that the DTV facility could be constructed by November 1, 1998. To this end, we have contracted for the necessary tower renovation at KDVR in Denver and are filing with the local government for the necessary permits to begin this construction. Again, barring unanticipated delays in obtaining such permits, we are attempting to construct KDVR's digital facility as soon as possible.

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WTXF, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

A second tower for digital transmission is necessitated because WTXF currently leases space on its tower to three tenants, none of which can be required to vacate until well after the 18-month build out period. An alternative site was located that includes an existing tower, and a lease signed. On account of its height, this site is not optimal, and WTXF hopes to be able to relocate its digital transmission facility to its original site after the expiration of the aforementioned tenant leases on WTXF's current NTSC tower.

A construction permit application was filed on March 19, 1998, and notification was received that it had been accepted for filing.

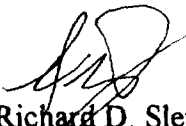
WTXF has solicited and received proposals for design, fabrication and installation of the DTV antenna mount, transmission line and bridge, as well as bids on the transmitter and the antenna itself, so that we will be ready to order RF-related equipment as soon as a construction permit is received. The tower owner is constructing a new building to house our DTV transmitter. Barring any delay in the local permitting process, it is anticipated that transmitter installation could begin by late summer. We also have been meeting with the electric company, electricians and other contractors about other facility modifications for our digital installation, including electrical, air conditioning and water systems, to prepare the new site for digital equipment installation.

If there are there any questions regarding the foregoing, please do not hesitate to communicate with the undersigned at the above address or telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,



Molly Pauker
Vice President, Corporate and Legal Affairs
Fox Television Stations Inc.



Richard D. Slenker
Executive Vice President, Engineering and Operations
Fox Television Stations Inc.

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